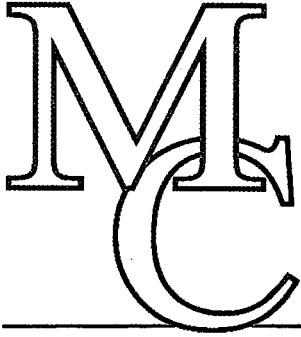


# MIDDLE COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



8 43<sup>RD</sup> STREET • CENTEREACH, NY 11720  
631-285-8005 • 631-738-2719 (fax) • [www.mccsd.net](http://www.mccsd.net)

*Roberta A. Gerold, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools*  
*Francine McMahon, Deputy Superintendent for Instruction*  
*Herbert B. Chessler, Assistant Superintendent for Business*  
*James G. Donovan, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources*

March 12, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Update (Coronavirus)

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

I'd like to update you all on what we know about the coronavirus (COVID-19) and what we are doing, to the best of our abilities, to keep our students and staff safe and healthy. As of this writing – March 12, 2020, we have no staff member or any student who has been confirmed as having the virus or who has been directed to self-quarantine by the Department of Health.

We've been in direct contact – and will continue to stay in contact - with the Suffolk County Department of Health and with Suffolk County officials to ensure that we have immediately responsive processes in place should Middle Country be notified that a staff member or a student has tested positive for COVID -19 – or if any individual has been directed, by the Department of Health, to self-quarantine. The Department of Health is available 24/7 to us, so if we have any concerns, we will – almost immediately, be provided with accurate information (we don't want to react to rumors) and with direction. And we will make sure that you all are kept informed should we be notified that particular actions need to be put into place.

In district, we've taken a number of actions to keep us all healthy.

- Right now, our schools are being cleaned daily, following protocols that were put into place several years ago to help contain the H1N1 virus. Those protocols are recommended to deal with COVID-19. In addition to our current practices, we have at our high schools, and will soon have at all of our schools and for use on our busses, high pressure steamers that spray disinfectant on all surfaces (which will help limit the spread of any bacteria-based illness).
- Effective Monday, March 16, 2020, schools will be closed each weekday at 7:00 PM and on weekends so that they can be thoroughly and deeply cleaned each evening in preparation for the next school day. This means that there will be no evening or weekend activities in our schools. We will revisit this decision mid-April, if it appears that the virus is subsiding.

- All field trips off of Long Island have been cancelled. Field trips to sites on Long Island are being reviewed, with approvals determined on a case-by-case basis. We are limiting, the best we can, student participation in non-essential large group events that take place off site. As with the ban on school utilization, this decision will be revisited mid-April to determine whether trips may be resumed or if additional limitations need to be imposed.

As always, our top priority is the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

Sincerely,



Roberta A. Gerold, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

RAG:mvl